- Home based management of lymphoedema cases and up-scaling of hydrocele operations in identified CHCs/Distt hospitals/medical colleges.
- Capacity building of health care workers for home-based management of Lymphatic filariasis cases.

**Shortage of Nurses in Hospitals**

1126.SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to acute shortage of qualified trained nurses, the health servcies have been badly affected in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how Government propose to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) According to the information available, there is no shortage of trained nurses in the country. So far 8.65 lakh nurses have been registered with various State Nursing Councils in India. As per an estimate, about 30,000 Nurses qualify every year. Although there is no shortage of trained nurses in the country, Government has taken several steps to further augmentation of the availability of trained nurses. These include up gradation of Schools of Nursing and Colleges of Nursing, establishment of New Nursing Colleges, financial assistance to strengthen schools and colleges of nursing, organizing continuing education programme for nursing personnel to upgrade their knowledge and skills etc. An allocation of Rs 100 crores has been done in the Tenth Five Year Plan for Development of Nursing Services in India.

**UNDP report on infant mortality**

1127. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent UNDP's human development report on increasing high infant and maternal mortality rates in the country, particularly in Maharashtra State;